

ER 61-2452/a

15 APR 1961

Miss Julie Houston

Dear Miss Houston:

The assignment you have chosen regarding the religious opposition to Nazism is, indeed, a challenging one. My own views on this matter are by no means comprehensive, nor would I presume to advance an analysis when there is such an extensive amount of published material on this subject by people who were more directly engaged in the problem.

Attached is a short listing of English publications dealing with this subject. In addition, I am enclosing copies of another bibliography, largely German publications, which lists some seventy works on this topic. I hope that these references will be helpful to you in your undertaking.

Sincerely,

Signed

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

Enclosures:

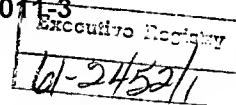
Listing of English Publications  
Bibliography of German Publications

Orig - Addressee

1 - DCI ✓ 1 - ER (w/basic) 1 - C/EE  
1 - DDCI 1 - DD/P 1 - C/EE

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WE

20 APR 1961

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. [REDACTED] Assistant to the DCI  
SUBJECT: Correspondence from Miss Julie Houston dated 22 March 1961

Attached is a suggested reply to the letter to the Director from Miss Julie Houston, requesting information on the German church's opposition to Nazism.

[REDACTED]  
Chief, Eastern Europe Division

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Attachments:  
Letter to Miss Houston with  
Bibliographies  
Original Letter to DCI

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61-2452

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[Redacted]  
March 22, 1961

Mr. Allen W. Dulles

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[Redacted]  
Dear Mr. Dulles:

As an assignment for an English class at Eastern Kentucky State College I am writing a research paper. The subject I have chosen is "Religion vs. Nazism". I am investigating to what extent the German Church opposed Nazism. After reading your book Germany's Underground, which I thoroughly enjoyed, I feel that you could answer several questions which have come to my mind.

It is my understanding that the church did not oppose Nazism to the fullest extent. While reading various articles, however, I have found much emphasis upon church opposition. Did the church greatly oppose Nazism, or did they try to ignore the situation? Did the youth of the church show much opposition? Do you believe that if the Protestant churches had been more united they could have destroyed Nazism before it was securely established?

I would greatly appreciate a personal reply to these questions if it is possible. Also, any material that you could send me or suggestions of material which I could use would be of much help.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,

*Julie Houston*  
(Miss) Julie Houston

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION  
☒ UNCLASSIFIED ☐ CONFIDENTIAL ☐ SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP**

TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	INITIALS	DATE
1	Chief/EE Division	JEB	29/3/61
2	[Redacted]	QM	5/4/61
3	C/EE	Ans 16	5/4/61
4	STAT		
5			
6			

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACTION	<input type="checkbox"/> DIRECT REPLY	<input type="checkbox"/> PREPARE REPLY
<input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL	<input type="checkbox"/> DISPATCH	<input type="checkbox"/> RECOMMENDATION
<input type="checkbox"/> COMMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> FILE	<input type="checkbox"/> RETURN
<input type="checkbox"/> CONCURRENCE	<input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE

Remarks:

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[Redacted] The DCI would appreciate it if you would prepare some kind of reply for his signature. He says that he has no particular personal information which would be responsive to this request but says that you may have something of an unclassified nature that might be helpful.

SUSPENSE: 4 April 1961

STAT

FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER

FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.	DATE
[Redacted] Attn: To the DCI	29 MAR 1961

61-2452/c

Miss Julie Houston



Dear Miss Houston:

The assignment you have chosen regarding the religious opposition to Nazism is, indeed, a challenging one. My own views on this matter are by no means comprehensive, nor would I presume to advance an analysis when there is such an extensive amount of published material on this subject by people who were more directly engaged in the problem.

It is my opinion that you will find it difficult, even after a thorough study of the facts available, to arrive at a clear decision about the degree of church opposition to Nazism and the effect this opposition had on the growth of Nazi power. Church members and officials reacted to Nazism in accordance with individual political assessments, which understandably varied greatly, and their individual consciences. Although the economic, political, and psychological situation in Germany provided unusually favorable conditions for the rise of Nazism, the churches generally impeded the rise of Nazi influence and opposed even more sharply the consolidation of Nazi power.

In assessing church potential for resisting German civil authority, furthermore, it is important to avoid too close comparison with our own system, which does not impose state authority on the churches. Since the Religious Peace of Augsburg, in 1555, the principle expressed in the Latia Cris regio, eius religio has profoundly influenced the position of the churches in Germany.

Attached is a short listing of English publications dealing with this subject. In addition, I am enclosing copies

of another bibliography, largely German publications, which lists some seventy works on this topic. I hope that these references will be helpful to you in your undertaking.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

2 Attachments:

Listing of English Publications  
Bibliography of German Publications

cc:DDCI

DDP/EE, [REDACTED] 5 April 1961)

**Listing of English Publications**

- Epstein-Jones, Arthur Stuart.** The Struggle for Religious Freedom in Germany. London, Gallancz, 1938. 319 pp.
- Frey, Arthur.** Cross and Swastika; the Ordeal of the German Church. London, Student Christian Movement Press, 1938. 223 pp.
- Krzesinski, Andrew John.** National Cultures, Nazism and the Church. Boston, Humphries, 1945.
- Krzesinski, Andrew John.** Religion of Nazi Germany. Boston, Humphries, 1945. 48 pp.
- Martin, Hugh and others.** Christian Counterattack; Europe's Churches Against Nazism. New York, C. Scribner's Sons, 1944. 125 pp.
- Micklem, Nathaniel.** National Socialism and the Roman Catholic Church; Being an Account of the Conflict between the National Socialist Government of Germany and the Roman Catholic Church, 1933-1938. London, Oxford University Press, 1939. 243 pp.
- Westermeyer, Harry Edwards.** Fall of the German Gods. Mountain View, California, Pacific Press Pub. Assn., 1950. 328 pp.